is targetted for completion by December, 97 and work is being progressed accordingly.

Allocation of funds to Maharashtra from Calamity Relief Fund

621. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what was the annual allocation to the State of Maharashtra from the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) during the last three years year-wise and the basis on which these allocations were made;

(b) whether these allocations were sufficient to provide adequate relief to the victims of natural calamities in the State during the said period; and

(c) if not, what steps Government have taken to enhance the allocations under CRF to the State of Maharashtra form 1996-97 onwards?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) to (c) The annual Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) allocation for Maharashtra during 1993-94 and 1994-95 was Rs. 44.00 crores each and the allocation for 1995-96 was Rs. 64.37 crores. The Ninth Finance Commission determined the CRF allocation for 1993-94 and 1994-95 taking into account the average of the aggregate ceilings of expenditure on natural calamities during the ten years period ending 1988-89. The Tenth Finance Commission made the allocation for 1995-96 taking into account the average of aggregate of ceilings of expenditure for the years 1983-84 to 1989-90 and the amount of CRF for the years 1990-91 to 1992-93. This has also been adjusted for inflation. As such, the annual CRF allocation is adequate to take care of the requirement of relief and rehabilitation in the wake of natural calamities. In any case the allocation is fixed on the basis of the recommendations of the Tenth Finance Commission for the period upto 1999-2000 A.D.

पटना और दिल्ली के बीच सुपरफास्ट गाड़ी

622. **श्री नागमणि:** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार जनता की मांग को देखते हुए पटना और दिल्ली के बीच एक सुपरफास्ट रेल गाड़ी चलाने पर विचार कर रही है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण है?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सतपाल महाराज): (क) जी हां।

(ख) यह विनिश्चय किया गया है कि 1996-97 के दौरान पटना से दिल्ली तक लखनऊ के रास्ते एक राजधानी एक्सप्रैस चलाई जाएगी।

(ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Experimentation of Biological Toilets in Tamilnadu Express

623. SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA: DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICKHAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an experiment of bilogical toilets was made in the Tamilnadu Express sometime during January-February this year;

(b) if so, what are the salient features of this experiment;

(c) whether it is a fact that due to these toilets obnoxious and foul smell spread all over the train and make the journeys of passenger uncomfortable;

(d) whether any Member of Parliament has made complaints about it;

(e) what is the fate of these toilets now; and

(f) the persons responsible for the huge expenditure incurred on this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Bio-toilet has been developed to provide environment friendly toilet system in coaches. This is aimed at keeping the railway track clean by avoiding discharge of human waste from the toilets and provide clean environment at railway stations. These toilets work on the principle of biological decomposition of human waste matter by bacterial action into gas and water. The system consists of a tank, Filter beds, Exhaust out-let for the gas and provision for discharge of clear liquid on the track.

(c) In a few instances, bad odour emanating from the toilet fitted with bio-toilets have been reported mainly due to failure of the Exhaust fans on a particular coach. The exhaust fan has since been redesigned to overcome this problem and there are no further complaints.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) These bio-toilets have been fitted on experimental measures. The results and the response from public has been encouraging. Railways plan to introduce several more coaches with bio-toilets as an efforts towards control of environment pollution.

(f) Provision of bio-toilets is a development exercise as a railway effort for control of environment pollution. Only nominal expenditure has been incurred in its development.

Admission Scam in Kendriya Vidyalayas

624. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA:
SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards news-item "Admission Scam in Kendriya Vidyalayas" that appeared in the Delhi edition of the 'Sunday Observer' dated the April 28 May 4, 1996;

(b) if so, whether any probe has since been ordered therein;

(c) if so, the detailed outcome; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) At this stage there are no specific complaints or evidence before the Government to warrant such an inquiry.

Un-manned railway crossings in Gujarat

625. SHRIMAT ANANDIBEN JETHABHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of un-manned railway crossings in Gujarat at present;

(b) the number of such crossings converted into manned crossings during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(c) the number of such crossings proposed to be converted during the current year and next year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) 2948.

(b) 54.

(c) It has been decided that no new unmanned level crossing will be added and the sensitive unmanned level crossings will be, on a planned basis, after due prioritisation, converted into manned level crossings with the help of the State Govts. who have to invest the initial capital cost.

Safety meausres in Railways

626. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:
SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether proper safety meausres are not being implemented in Railways, causing accidents;

(b) if so, whether the officers have recently admitted that most of the accidents occur due to human error; and

(c) if so, whether Railway Staff has been held responsible for most after accidents that occurred during the past three months?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) No, Sir. Proper safety measures are being implemented.

(b) and (c) Causewise analysis of accidents reveals that human error has been one of the major causes of accidents. Each accident case is enquired into, responsibility is fixed and action is taken.

Rationalisation of Fertilizer Price Structure

627. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state: